

# California Postsecondary Education Commission

## Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program

### Project Description

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|--|---|--|--|
| Project Title  | <b>Redwood Area Academic Literacy Initiative (RAALI)</b>  |  |  |
| Grant Amount: \$1,004,832  | Grant Period: October 1, 2005 – September 30, 2009  |  |  |
| Grade Level: 9 – 12  | Subject Matter: Science, Mathematics, and History   |  |  |
| Institutes of Higher Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Humboldt State University (Lead)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sonoma State University   |  |  |
| Local Education Agency   | <input type="checkbox"/> Konocti Unified School District  |  |  |
| Additional Partners -- <b>School Districts</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> Anderson Valley<br><input type="checkbox"/> Eureka<br><input type="checkbox"/> Del Norte<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fortuna<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sonoma Valley<br><input type="checkbox"/> Round Valley  | <input type="checkbox"/> Klamath-Trinity<br><input type="checkbox"/> Northern Humboldt<br><input type="checkbox"/> Cloverdale<br><input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Valley<br><input type="checkbox"/> Willits<br><input type="checkbox"/> Lakeport | <input type="checkbox"/> Healdsburg<br><input type="checkbox"/> Potter Valley Community<br><input type="checkbox"/> West Sonoma<br><input type="checkbox"/> Upper Lake<br><input type="checkbox"/> Dunsmuir<br><i>Additional districts may participate</i> |
| Need for Project/ Population To Be Served:   | Schools with high poverty rates (over 20%) and whose students have performance deficits in language arts, mathematics, science, and history have agreed to participate in a program to improve academic literacy skills of secondary students. Teachers will participate in a professional development program to improve teaching skills to enhance academic literacy in the content areas of science, math, and history. Humboldt and Sonoma State Universities, in cooperation with Konocti Unified School District, will manage the project.  |  |  |
| Project Goals:   | GOAL 1: Provide a professional development program for teachers of science, mathematics, and history to enhance the literacy skills among ninth and tenth grade students. GOAL 2: Implement specific literacy curricular interventions in program high schools. GOAL 3: Increase student achievement in mathematics, history, and science as measured by standard achievement tests and program-developed assessment tools. GOAL 4: Conduct research focusing on the impact of the specific literacy curricular interventions developed and implemented as part of RAALI, and other related questions.  |  |  |
| Summary of Activities:   | The RAALI aims to enhance student content learning in science, mathematics and history using specific academic literacy approaches developed and implemented by RAALI teachers and professional development providers. In 15 schools across six counties in the North Coast region (aka Redwood Area) of NW California, project activities will bring together teams of teachers for summer institutes, implement specific content area academic literacy pedagogies, and engage in research activities aimed to understand impacts of the project work. The professional development component focuses on the recruitment of teachers, summer institutes, a leadership development including mentoring and coaching, new teacher training, and cognitive collaboration through institute and classroom discussions, as well as online communications. Research results will be disseminated locally, at statewide conferences, and through publications. |  |  |
| Outcomes Expected:   | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved performance for students in science, math, and history courses as measured by standard and project develop assessments; Increase graduation rates; increase readiness for college entrance.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Development a community of academic literacy practitioners in the region that provides leadership, sustains the community, and enhances partnerships amount K-12, IHE, and other professional organizations.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Conduct effective evaluation and research to inform RAALI project leadership and participants about project outcomes and effectiveness of approaches; disseminate results.   |  |  |
| Teachers Served  | 120   | Students Served  | 21,648   |
| Project Website: <a href="http://www.humboldt.edu/~rsp/RAALI.htm">http://www.humboldt.edu/~rsp/RAALI.htm</a> |   |  |  |
| Jeffrey W. White<br>Project Director and IHE Contact   | Email: <a href="mailto:jww12@humboldt.edu">jww12@humboldt.edu</a>   | Dan Simard<br>Project Co-director and LEA Contact  | Email: <a href="mailto:simadan@yahoo.com">simadan@yahoo.com</a>  |
|  | Phone: (707) 826-5551   |  | Phone: (707) 994-6471  |